

6. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said weld metal comprises at least 0.04% niobium.

7. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said weld metal comprises 0.02% or less nitrogen.

8. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said weld metal further comprises 0.5% or less nickel.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said weld metal comprises substantially 0.075% carbon, 0.2% silicon, 0.5% manganese, 0.001% sulphur, 0.017% phosphorous, 2.2% chromium, 0.1% molybdenum, 0.1% nickel, 0.23% vanadium, 0.06% niobium, 0.05% titanium, 1.9% tungsten, 0.009% nitrogen, 0.003% boron and 0.02% aluminium.

10. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel which comprises from 0.15 to 0.35% carbon, from 0 to 0.3% silicon, from 0.2 to 1% manganese, from 0 to 0.03% sulphur, from 0 to 0.03% phosphorous, from 0.3 to 1% nickel, from 0.7 to 1.50% chromium, from 0.5 to 1.2 % molybdenum, and from 0.2 to 0.4% vanadium.

11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel comprising substantially 0.25% carbon, 0.23% silicon, 0.64% manganese, 0.005% sulphur, 0.01% phosphorous, 0.56% nickel, 0.8% chromium, 0.78% molybdenum, and 0.35% vanadium.

12. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, comprising providing a second rotor element having a composition substantially the same as the said rotor element and welding the said second rotor element to the said rotor element using the said weld metal.

13. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said welding process is a submerged-arc welding process.

14. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said method comprises a step of machining a rotor component to form at least one of the said rotor elements.

15. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, comprising a step of machining the said weld metal after the weld has been formed.

18. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises at least 0.3% manganese.

19. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises 0.005% or less sulphur.

20. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises at least 1.7% tungsten.

21. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises at least 0.04% niobium.

22. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises 0.02% or less nitrogen.

23. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal further comprises 0.5% or less nickel.

24. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the said weld metal comprises substantially 0.075% carbon, 0.2% silicon, 0.5% manganese, 0.001% sulphur, 0.017%

phosphorous, 2.2% chromium, 0.1% molybdenum, 0.1% nickel, 0.23% vanadium, 0.06% niobium, 0.05% titanium, 1.9% tungsten, 0.009% nitrogen, 0.003% boron and 0.02% aluminium.

25. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel which comprises from 0.15 to 0.35% carbon, from 0 to 0.3% silicon, from 0.2 to 1% manganese, from 0 to 0.03% sulphur, from 0 to 0.03% phosphorous, from 0.3 to 1% nickel, from 0.7 to 1.50% chromium, from 0.5 to 1.2 % molybdenum, and from 0.2 to 0.4% vanadium.

26. (Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel comprising substantially 0.25% carbon, 0.23% silicon, 0.64% manganese, 0.005% sulphur, 0.01% phosphorous, 0.56% nickel, 0.8% chromium, 0.78% molybdenum, and 0.35% vanadium.

ALL
CONF
10071077
034103